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REMARKS

Claims 1 to 3, 5 to 10, and 13 to 17 are pending in the application.

Claims 3, 6, 7, and 18 were previously presented.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 8 to 17 are cancelled.

Claims 19 to 23 are new.

Claims 3, 6, 7, and 18 to 23 would be all of the claims pending in the application if the amendment in this paper is entered. Applicants believe no new matter has been added by the above amendments.

Applicants retain all rights to reintroduce canceled or deleted subject matter in the present application or a continuation, divisional, or continuation-in-part thereof.

Claim Objections

The objection to Claims 1, 2, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 132 is maintained. In the Office Action mailed April 21, 2004, the Examiner alleged that Applicants' amendment filed January 22, 2004, introduced new matter into the disclosure of the invention. Particularly, the Examiner objected to addition of the phrase, "wherein the compound isophthalic acid bis-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) ester is excluded."

While Applicants respectfully disagree with the objection, Claims 1, 2, and 5 are canceled to advance prosecution, rendering moot the objection to Claims 1, 2, and 5.

Claims 8 and 13 to 16 are objected to because of informalities, particularly that they depend on Claim 18, which allegedly is not an antecedent claim. Claims 8 and 13 to 16 have been canceled and reintroduced as new Claims 19 to 23, respectively, rendering moot the objection to Claims 8 and 13 to 16.

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Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The rejection of Claims 1, 2, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement, has been maintained. In the Office Action mailed April 21, 2004, the Examiner alleged that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner alleged that the original claims and specification do not provide antecedent basis for the addition of the phrase, "wherein the compound isophthalic acid bis-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-ylmethyl) ester is excluded."

While Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection, Claims 1, 2, and 5 are canceled, rendering moot the rejection of Claims 1, 2, and 5.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The rejection of Claims 1, 2, and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by JP-405193260, has been maintained. In the Office Action mailed April 21, 2004, the Examiner alleged that JP-405193260 discloses an isophthalic acid bis-(1,3-benzodioxo-5-ylmethyl) ester compound on page 3, compound number 0013.

Claims 1, 2, and 5 are canceled, rendering moot the rejection of Claims 1, 2, and 5.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that the objections and rejections have been overcome. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of Claims 3, 6, 7, and 18, and consideration of new Claims 19 to 23. Should any objection or rejection be maintained, Applicants respectfully

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requests an Advisory Action from the Office, as the present paper is being submitted within two months of the mailing of the FINAL Office Action.

The undersigned may be contacted at the below recited numbers.

Respectfully submitted,

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